

North Carolina Governor's School

Choral Music Auditions - Instructions

1. Preparations

- a. Camera - Professional video cameras are not required; most cell phone cameras are perfectly fine. Just ensure picture and sound clarity. You may mount your camera on a tripod or have someone operate it.
- b. Space - Use a space that is open and free from distractions.
- c. Lighting - Make sure the lighting is adequate for viewing and that you are not backlit (i.e., do not have a lamp or sunlight coming through a window behind you).

2. Recording

- a. General - The video audition consists of two parts: **Range and Solo Performance**. Each part or section should be one continuous shot with no edits or splicing; however, you will need to edit the two sections together into one video file. OR you may choose to do both parts as one continuous shot – a pause in the video to transition to the next section is acceptable. You may record your individual sections multiple times and choose the best one to submit. Videos should not exceed **5 minutes** in length.
- a. Audition Details - See below for details.

3. Submission

You will receive instructions from your Governor's School Contact (the person to whom you submitted your application) regarding audition submission procedures. If you have any questions, please speak with your Governor's School Contact.

PART ONE: Range

- a. Introduce yourself with your name and vocal part.
- b. Sing an ascending major scale to demonstrate the top of your comfortable singing range as in Example 1 below.
- c. Sing a descending major scale to demonstrate the bottom of your comfortable singing range as in Example 2 below.

(You may sing on numbers, solfege syllables, or a neutral syllable of your choice. The linked examples show higher and lower voices singing ascending and descending major scales.)

Range example 1: <https://youtu.be/JlStW8lQ6xA>

Range example 2: <https://youtu.be/lzfu1lcMrpw>

PART TWO: Solo Performance

You may consult with your music teacher or vocal coach regarding your song or excerpt from a song.

- a. Select a song or excerpt from a song (90-seconds to 2-minutes) of **any genre you prefer (e.g., formal, pop, gospel, Broadway, rock, etc.)** that:
 - i. is by a 20th-century or 21st-century composer.
 - ii. has sheet music you can share/send for review by judges, and
 - iii. demonstrates your tone, intonation, diction, range, pitch accuracy, rhythm accuracy, and musical expressiveness.
- b. You may perform this with or without accompaniment. Accompaniment can be live or recorded. It must be audible, but not overpower your voice on your audition video. An

unaccompanied performance (i.e., a cappella) is also quite acceptable, so do not feel compelled to pursue accompaniment.

- c. Announce the title and composer of your song or excerpt. If you are not starting at the beginning, state the measure at which you are starting.
- d. Perform your song or excerpt, with or without accompaniment, for at least 90 seconds but not more than about two minutes (if you need to go slightly beyond two minutes to complete the musical phrase, that is acceptable).
- e. At the end of your excerpt, stop your recording. Do not include comments or credits.